

Assembly Bill No. 2700

CHAPTER 703

An act to add Section 6390 to the Family Code, relating to domestic violence.

[Approved by Governor September 21, 1998. Filed
with Secretary of State September 22, 1998.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2700, Kuehl. Domestic violence courts.

Existing law establishes procedures for the prevention of domestic violence and provides both civil and criminal sanctions for acts of domestic violence, as specified.

This bill would require the Judicial Council to conduct a descriptive study, as specified, of various domestic violence courts, as defined, in California and other states, and to report its findings to the Legislature on or before March 1, 2000.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares that domestic violence courts have been proven to benefit victims of domestic violence and to provide for the efficient handling of domestic violence cases.

SEC. 2. Section 6390 is added to the Family Code, to read:

6390. (a) The Judicial Council shall conduct a descriptive study of the various domestic violence courts established in California and other states. As used in this section, "domestic violence courts" means the assignment of civil or criminal cases, or both, involving domestic violence to one department of the superior court or municipal court, consistent with the jurisdiction of those courts. The study shall describe the policies and procedures used in domestic violence courts and provide an analysis and rationale for the common features of these courts. The study shall identify issues and potential obstacles, if any, to be considered in developing and implementing effective domestic violence courts at the local level.

(b) The Judicial Council shall report to the Legislature no later than March 1, 2000, with respect to the study required by subdivision (a).